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## John D. Feerick to the New York Times

John D. Feerick

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3840 Greystone Ave.  
Riversdale 63, N.Y.  
April 18, 1964

The New York Times  
229 West 43rd Street  
New York, N.Y.

Attention: Letters to the Editor Dept.

To the Editor:

The recent illnesses of President Charles de Gaulle, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and former Prime Minister Harold Macmillan are clear reminders that no nation, least of all the United States of America, can afford not to have definite procedures to handle the situation where the chief of state becomes disabled. The shocking fact is that the United States has no such procedures. In the weeks following the death of President Kennedy, widespread concern about this deficiency was expressed. Surprisingly, this concern is now almost non-existent despite the fact that the problem remains unsolved.

In a remarkable display of civic responsibility, the American Bar Association will seek to revive public interest in the problem of presidential inability through a nationwide educational program designed to call attention to the need for a constitutional amendment to solve this problem once and for all. As soon as the Congress concludes its deliberations on the Civil Rights Bill, it owes it to the American people to act on the problem of presidential inability which, if left unsolved, might someday prove to be this nation's Achilles' heel.

Very truly yours,

John D. Fierick